



(U) Sydney Jaffe Career Language Award Winners

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(U//FOUO) Recently, the [Crypto-Linguistic Association \(CLA\)](#) announced the [winners of the career language awards for 2003](#). This is the first year that four recipients have been chosen for the awards- two each receiving the Dr. Sydney Jaffe Award (for civilians) and the CAPT Joseph Rochefort Award (for military). For each award, a category was added to recognize mid-career accomplishments. In this first of two articles, we'll focus on the recipients of the Jaffe Award.

(S//REL) The winner of the **Sydney Jaffe Award, Mid-Career**, was [REDACTED] of the France and Belgium Branch (S2C41). [REDACTED] was recognized for [REDACTED] contributions as a language teacher, multi-linguist, and advocate for the linguist workforce.

(S//SI) [REDACTED] is widely known around NSA as one of the Agency's premier Dutch linguists and, since his arrival has helped 15 other Dutch linguists achieve professionalization. In 1998, [REDACTED] created a Dutch transcription course from scratch, saving the Agency an estimated \$5,000 per student in fees to language contractors--and produced better results. Later, in 2000-2001, [REDACTED] developed and taught a formal language class in beginning Dutch to three students; after 12 weeks of instruction, all passed the level two proficiency exams with flying colors. Most recently, [REDACTED] is overseeing a new web-based intermediate transcription course.

(S//SI) In addition to being a native speaker of Dutch, [REDACTED] is professionalized in German and is proficient in French. He is a highly productive transcriber and has provided Dutch language assistance to many Analysis & Production shops, and to other Intelligence Community agencies. He has also made significant contributions to signals research and target development (SRTD) efforts in SID. As a Master in the Language and Linguistic Technical Track, [REDACTED] has served on Technical Track panels and has chaired the Dutch voice PQE committee since 1994.

(S//REL) The winner of the **Sydney Jaffe Award, Long-Term**, is [REDACTED] of the Other Balkan Entities Branch (S2A54). [REDACTED] was recognized for his superlative accomplishments at NSA, consistently producing work of outstanding quality and quantity in multiple languages, while still making time to serve as a mentor for others.

(TS//SI) [REDACTED] has achieved certification in approximately a dozen languages (including level-4 competency in some), and level-2 competency in several more. Remarkably, he is self-taught in most of them! In his career, he has produced literally thousands of reports, working at various times with Bulgarian, Czech, Hungarian, Macedonian, Polish, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, and Slovene. [REDACTED] reporting has supported high-level policy makers, the fight against terrorism, and combat and stabilization operations. He played a key role in the Agency's diplomatic reporting on the Balkans crisis throughout the 1990's.

(TS//SI) [REDACTED] also has a long history of serving the language community. He has chaired or served on multiple Professional Qualification Examination (PQE) committees, and oversaw PQE testing in Eastern European languages (up to 9 languages simultaneously). Furthermore, he played a crucial role in shaping the guidelines for the PQE system. Additionally, he has fused his strong software skills with his language and operational expertise to develop new tools to expedite language work. For example, he developed a scanning tool that tripled processing efficiency for a special project.

(U) These are just some of the accomplishments of the Jaffe Award winners. We think you will agree that their contributions have been truly exceptional. Warmest congratulations to the honorees!

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